

REMARKS

This paper accompanies a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and responds to a Final Office Action in the above-captioned application dated June 21, 2005. At the time the Final Office Action was mailed, claims 24-44 were pending in this application. Claim 24 has been amended and claim 45 has been added. Accordingly, claims 24-45 are currently pending.

In the Final Office Action, claims 24-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,505,986 to Velthaus et al. ("Velthaus") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,906,857 to McKee et al. ("McKee").

The undersigned attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for engaging in a telephone interview on August 18, 2005 to discuss a proposed amendment to claim 24. During the telephone interview, the Examiner agreed that the proposed amendment (which has now been applied to claim 24) would necessitate a withdrawal of the outstanding rejection of this claim for at least the following reasons: claim 24 includes independently monitoring and continuously varying the rates of deposition of components of first and second deposits onto a substrate. Neither applied reference discloses or suggests at least these features. McKee, for example, discloses a shutter system that does not continuously vary the rate of deposition, but rather intermittently varies the rate of deposition. Furthermore, McKee does not monitor the rate of deposition of components onto a substrate, but rather monitors the rate of generation of components. For at least the foregoing reasons, and for the additional features of the claim, the outstanding rejection of claim 24 should be withdrawn.

Claims 25-44 all depend from claim 24. Accordingly, the outstanding rejections of these claims should be withdrawn for the foregoing reasons and for the additional features of these dependent claims.

New claim 45 is generally similar to claim 24 but does not include the first element of claim 24, and clarifies that the rates of deposition of the components of at least one of the deposits are independently monitored and continuously varied. Accordingly, claim 45 is patentable over the applied references for the foregoing reasons.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 356828001US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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